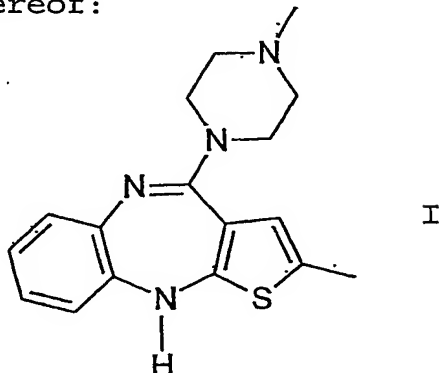
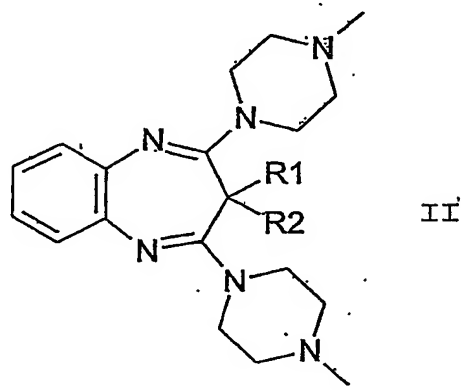


Claims:

1. Process for the manufacture of Olanzapine of the following formula I or a salt thereof:



by converting a compound of the following formula II or a salt thereof



in which

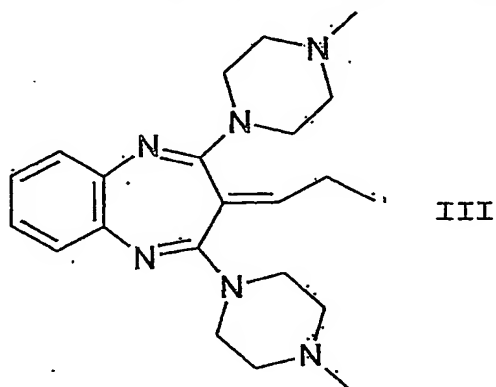
- (i) R1 and R2 together form $=CH-CH_2-CH_3$, or
- (ii) R1 and R2 are both H, or
- (iii) R1 is H and R2 is $-CH(R3)-CH_2-CH_3$, wherein R3 is a leaving group that can be eliminated together with R1 to result in R1 and R2 together forming $=CH-CH_2-CH_3$,

to give Olanzapine or a salt thereof.

2. Process according to claim 1, in which the leaving group R3 is $-OR_4$.
3. Process according to claim 2, in which R4 is H.

4. Process according to claim 2, in which R4 is selected from the group of acyl and sulfonyl and preferably is trifluoroacetyl or methane sulfonyl.
- 5 5. Process according to any one of claims 1 to 4, in which R1 and R2 together form $=CH-CH_2-CH_3$ and the conversion is performed by reacting the compound of formula II with a source of sulfur.
- 10 6. Propylidene-benzodiazepine of the following formula III:

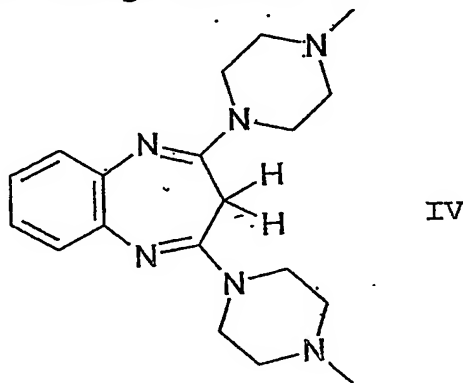
15



or salts thereof.

- 20 7. Benzodiazepine of the following formula IV:

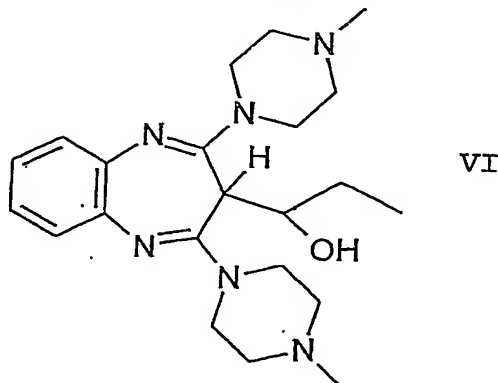
25



or salts thereof.

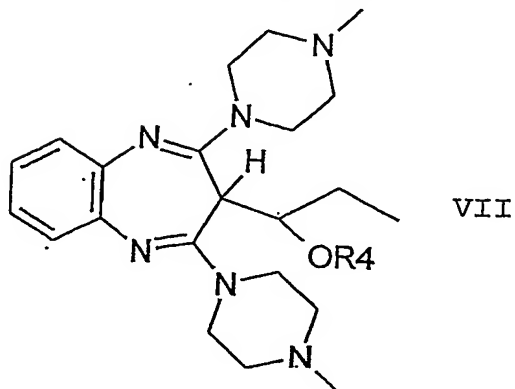
- 30 8. Benzodiazepin-propanol of the following formula VI:

35



or salts thereof.

9. Benzodiazepine-ester of the following formula VII:



in which R4 is selected from the group of acyl and sulfonyl and preferably is trifluoroacetyl or methane sulfonyl, or salts thereof.

- 15 10. Use of a compound according to any one of claims 6 to 9 for the manufacture of Olanzapine.
- 20
- 25
- 30
- 35